



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 13

Meeting Date: Friday, November 21, 2008
Meeting Location: Monroe County DCS
1783 W. 3rd Street
Bloomington, IN 47404
Training Room

Council Members Present:

Char Burkett-Sims Regional Manager for Region 9 and Interim for Region 13; **Judge Stephen Galvin**, Monroe County Circuit Court; **Judge Eric (Chip) Allen**, Greene County Circuit Court; **Steve Vaughn** Director, Monroe County; **Steve Adams**, Director, Lawrence County; **Debbie Dailey**, Director, Brown / Owen County; **Heather Perkins**, Supervisor Greene County; **Cami Terry**, Supervisor Monroe County; **Jackie Gerth**, FCM Monroe County; **Pamela Kiser**, FCM Lawrence County; **Angie Baugh**, Owen County Foster Parent; **Jim Johnson**, Monroe County Foster Parent

Council Members Absent:

Chris Gaal, Monroe County Prosecutor; **Judge Judy Stewart**, Brown County Circuit Court; **Kelly Leonhard**, Director CASA Greene County;

Others In Attendance:

Terry Decker, Director Greene County; John Ireland, Ireland Home-Based Services; Julie Miller, Ireland Home-Based Services; Shirley Pry, Ireland Home-Based Services; Ann Hecht, Raintree Services; Ron Thompson, Youth Services Bureau; Dana Burns, Donna McElroy, Owen County Court Services; Lori Quillen, Director CASA Owen County; Kent Houchins SW Indiana Regional Youth Village; Deb Johnson, Youth Director Lifeline; Lynn Wisneski, Brandi Brown, Debra Corn Agency; Christine McAfee-Galvin, Monroe County Prosecutor's Office.

Welcome / Introduction of New Members:

The meeting was brought to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson, Char Burkett-Sims. Introductions were made by those in attendance. Char Burkett-Sims is the Regional Manager of Region 9 and currently the Interim Regional Manager for Region 13.

The minutes of the September Meeting were reviewed by the council. There were no changes or corrections. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was carried.

Regional Services Council Training:

Statutory Changes of the Regional Service Council were discussed. These statutory changes help to analyze the needs of the regions and ensuring service delivery to children and families where most needed. The Council should have as much information as possible to make decisions regarding the delivery of services and the providers who provide the services. The funding for these services will be obtained from a State allocation and Child Welfare Services dollars. A Regional Finance Manager will be hired in each region to monitor how the money is being spent, and to identify trends in the services used for children and families.

The statutory changes also involve changes to the membership of the councils. The council will have a Regional Manager, who will serve as chair of the committee, three local Judges having juvenile jurisdiction, three local office Directors, two Family Case Manager Supervisors from the region, two Family Case Managers from the region, two licensed Foster Parents from the region, one Guardian ad Litem/CASA from the region; one Prosecuting Attorney in the region; one (non-voting) resident of the region who is at least 16 and less than 25 years of age who has received or is receiving services through funds provided, directly or indirectly, through the Department, and one (non-voting) parent of child who has received or is receiving services through funds provided, directly or indirectly through the Department. The council will also elect one member to serve as Vice-Chairperson .

Four voting Council members who are physically present at a meeting will constitute a quorum for the purpose of official business transactions. Judges, and Prosecuting Attorney may designate in writing a proxy to serve as a voting member of the Council if they are unavailable for a meeting.

Meetings are open to the public; however, the public must follow measures put into place so as to be recognized and adhere to the Judicial Cannon of Ethics. At the conclusion of every agenda for a RSC meeting there will be an opportunity for questions from the community. Meetings should be conducted with open dialogue and communication, and Roberts Rules of Order shall be followed at all times during the meeting. Meetings are intended for discussion and not a marketing but educational way for providers to offer their services.

The council will develop a biennial Regional Services Strategic Plan that is tailored to provide services targeted to the individual needs of children in the region, while also taking a look at the needs in each county. The plan shall also recommend any revisions, additions or updates relating to the implementation of the plan, a program for provision of family preservation services, and a detailed listing of the projected costs of the services recommended by the RSC.

Practice Update:

Heather Perkins reported that Child Family Team Meetings are occurring at a fast pace. She stated that from roll out to the end of October there have been 260 Child Family Team Meetings performed, and that the region is nearing 400 total. The region met the deadline of July 1, 2008 for training facilitators. The Planning and Intervening Training for Management is scheduled for January.

Heather stated that the strengths of the Child Family Team Meetings come from the families forming their own plans, the life of cases are declining, and children are not being removed from their home environment and being placed in foster care quite as often.

Informal adjustments are being created by the families and in turn creating shorter time in the DCS system, and in turn eliminating the need for DCS involvement.

A success story about a family in crisis was related to the members by Pam Kiser. Teaming was introduced and discussed with the family. This allowed the mother in this family to build upon a support system that was desperately needed by developing a plan that included her friends and neighbors. Putting a support team together, enabled the mother to feel more confident in finding solutions to her current circumstances. This in turn allows the caseworker to learn more about the family, find out what and where the needs are, and to help the family determine which services and goals are applicable to their needs.

Wave 3 & 4 Proposals:

Wave 3 proposals are those services that had been used under local agreement but without service standards and no consistent system of purchase. Wave 4 proposals designed specifically for the probation population (excluding detoxification) are for services that should be placed under state contract.

Effective January 2009 drug screening will no longer be performed by FCMs. The sub-committee for Wave 4 has selected two providers who include Ireland Group for collecting and Forensic Fluid for testing.

Steve Adams made a motion to accept the providers as chosen by the sub-committee. The motion was seconded, and by majority vote the motion was carried.

Community Partners Update:

John Ireland provided copies of the operating expense report for January to the end of October 2008. The adjusted budget for 2008 was \$435,793.50. This amount included a carry over of funds of \$97,334.50 from 2007. From January through October 2008, the operating expenses have totaled \$320,067.63. The budget set for 2009 will be \$233,000.00 for the calendar year. There will be no carry over money as in 2008.

A report on the number of referrals was also provided for council review. As of November 1 there was a total of 504 referrals received for 2008.

Region 13 received a total of 60 referrals during the month of September and 65 referrals for the month of October. Of these referrals, 2 cases came from Brown County, 18 from Greene County, 29 from Lawrence County, 53 from Monroe County, and 22 from Owen County.

Prevention Services:

A copy of the draft for Interim Early Intervention Plan 2009 – 2011 was provided for the council's review. More details and information regarding the draft will be discussed at the December meeting.

The 2009 budget for prevention is set at \$477,000 for the fiscal calendar year for Region 13. The amount allocated per county is to be determined. This money does not include Community Partners.

Chairperson, Char Burkett Sims stated that the council would discuss the utilization of the money at the December meeting.

Heather Perkins proposed to add the Region's Child Welfare Services dollars, and a portion of the allocations from each county to the Ireland Home Based Services budget.

Steve Adams proposed and made a motion to wait until the January meeting to see how the money is to be allocated after the December meeting before deciding to add any additional funds to Ireland's. This motion was seconded by Debbie Dailey. By majority vote, the motion was carried.

Other:

There were no further issues for discussion or statements from the public. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 19, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Region 13 Training Center.

